

FBI Vol. 2 received 10/28/76

Begins with 44-38861-126.

127 4/9/68 RCMP, Ottawa, holding 2 men from BS Murkin. No other suspects?

In the first and the beginning of this volume there are a number of reports on Minutemen plots, several describing a man of Italian extraction.

44-38861 - 136 4/8/68 describes one of above as having La. tags on car. P.3.

44-38861-146, MFO 44-1987 forwards 47 pix crime scene

" 147, 4/8/68 Latona to Trotter. Have 2 finger 1 palmprint from 2 1 of 3 rifles from B'ham. Have 13 latents, 1 palm unidentified

" 154 to MFO says "results of laboratory examination separate."

" 156 4/5/68 Director to MFO on lab work, etc. P. 2 has language virtually identical with Frazier's affidavit. It does NOT report any test firing but does say "No record NPSI of NCIC of Remington rifle..." "Numerous brown head hairs of Caucasian origin" found various items and "brown to black beard fragments." Ends "Complete laboratory report being furnished separately."

" 172 LaGuardia airport police had suspect in custody. Suspect consented to be photographed.

" 174, Jevons to Conrad, copy to Olson (first time I've seen this) 4/5/68. Marginal mark where it says impossible identify slug, confirmed "independently by three of the Laboratory's firearms examiners." Still no ref to test firing. Previous, 4/6/68, ser. 173, Latona to Trotter, says "both rifles have been disassembled and all parts examined for latent prints."

" 175, 4/8/68, W.S. Hyde to Mohr, tabulates 15 agents, 6 cars, 3 stenos sent to Memphis, from 6 field offices. Interestingly one restriction on agents, "they were not to send agents who were former police officers." Does this suggest they suspected police involvement within one day when the instructions to the 6 field offices was 4/5/68?

" 180 4/5/68 MFO to Dir., three of four pages to be supplied
This report identifies the store that sold the rifle as "Wimberly Thomas." At least one earlier one did also.

" 184, 4/5/68 Jackson to Dir, others, reports being told by phone by MFO "that suspect while running from rooming house across from Lorraine Motel, Memphis, after King was shot dropped bag and weapon." There is no basis for this. It may mark the beginning of this fiction within FBI.

" 185 4/5/68 report of two mysterious men who were in Mps less than a day and left by air after one cased airport and returned to William Len for second. Went to Houston.

" 191 4/10/68 Dir. teletype all continental offices instructing priority to be given checks on "suspect Galt." First mention I've seen. (See 204)

Instead of ser. 194 there is Boston's airtel 4/8/68 stamped "Not recorded 180 Apr 15 1968."

" 204 4/9/68 B'Ham teletype has Eric Starvo Galt, 2608 Highland Ave South "developed as possible suspect this case." This is not address used earlier for Cowmeyer. Identified Mustang but gives no sources of anything.

" 206 Mobile teletype of 4/9/68 has Alabama registration records Galt.

" 207 4/4/68 Memphis Airtel with King's clothing. Interestingly refers to damage to shirt only, "appears to be bullet entry in collar of shirt," and no ref. any other damage, wound, both then known.

Lab rpt. 4/18/68 to Memphis, 3 typed pages, 3 of handwritten sketches, notes. Specimens received 4/8, these say. Qs 76-85 inclusive. Names examiners masked. Says "microscopic

examination of the fabric and yarns in the damaged areas of Q76 and Q77 indicates the object or objects causing the damage may have entered the collar from above and travelled downward through the collar, severed the necktie and exited immediately below the collar." (At that time it was known that this was impossible. The report is dated 4/18. This also leaves entirely unexplained the large wound of the right jaw, very visible.) Page numbered 1, actually second, says "necktie has been forcibly torn apart," hardly consistent with suggestion bullet did it on first page quoted above. "The object or objects causing the damage were larger than a bullet of .30 caliber size and irregular in shape as all of the yarns were broken, not cut. One or more segments of bone could not be eliminated as the cause of the damage." Damage to right lapel of Q70 coat not through and through and "torn by some object or objects" at three places on surface. No holes identifiable as bullet holes but shirt, coat and tie "contaminated with traces of lead which could have come from a bullet or from bullet fragments. The lead contamination of these items could not be associated with a particular bullet or lead source."

First sheet handwritten notes says Lab ex 4/16/68 although supposedly to have been expedited. Three examiners names masked. Sheet on Q78 suit jacket dated 4-9-69 and 4-10-68. Says color photos made before any exams made.

" 209 4/6/68 Memphis to Dir, sending "photographs of Dr. Martin Luther King which were taken by (masked) of the Memphis PD at St. Joseph's Hospital."

" 210 4/9/68 Memphis to Dir Airtel with New Revel registration card masks the names of the publicly-identified witnesses narrated at the guilty-plea hearing. Hagemeister.

" 223 4/8/68 Memphis teletype reports the taking of 47 photos crimes scene, forwarding. Ser 221 missing.

Last two sers this file, 251, 252, probably from file Vol. 3